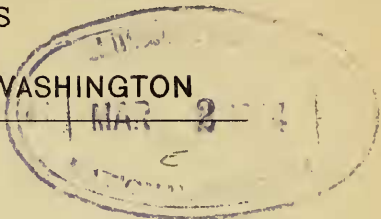


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A NEW CLAPPER RAIL FROM ANTIGUA, BRITISH
WEST INDIES.

BY STUART T. DANFORTH.

In the Lesser Antilles the Clapper Rail has been recorded only from Barbuda and Antigua, from both of which islands it has been known for many years, although so far as I have been able to ascertain no specimens had actually been secured there until those obtained by the present writer. Therefore when I visited the islands in question during the summer of 1933 I made a special effort to secure specimens. On Barbuda, probably due to the shortness of my stay, none were found, although some likely mangrove swamps were visited. On Antigua two specimens were obtained in the mangroves at the locality called Five Islands on August 8 and 10. These prove to differ from specimens from the Greater Antilles, and may be known as

Rallus longirostris manglecola, subsp. nov.

Subspecific characters.—Distinguished from any of the forms of *Rallus longirostris* inhabiting the Greater Antilles by its much longer bill and shorter tarsus.

Type.—No. 1005, Coll. of S. T. Danforth, at present deposited at the College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts of the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico, adult ♂, collected at Five Islands, Antigua, August 10, 1933, by S. T. Danforth.

Measurements of type.—Wing, 146.1; tail, 64.7; tarsus, 52.1; culmen, 73.9 mm.

Remarks.—The female collected in Antigua presents the following measurements: Wing, 135.5; tail, 60.7; tarsus, 45.8; culmen, 64.8 mm.

The bill of *manglecola* is longer and the tarsus shorter than that of any specimens from the Greater Antilles which it has been the writer's privilege to examine, or than any of the measurements which he has been able to find recorded in the literature.

For comparative purposes measurements of some specimens of *Rallus longirostris* subsp. from the Greater Antilles, some measured by the writer, and others found recorded in the literature, are appended. *Males*: Two from Jamaica, listed by Wetmore¹ (one of which, from the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, was also seen and measured by the writer, thanks to the kindness of Mr. J. L. Peters): Wing, 144-147.6; tail, 62.0 (of one), tarsus, 54.2-54.2; culmen 61.8-58.5. Four from Haiti, recorded by Wetmore¹: Wing, 151-154 (152.2); tail, 61.5-68.7 (64.4); tarsus, 57-59.5 (58.5); culmen, 63.8-68.7 (66.1). Wetmore² gives measurements of two from Petite Gonave and Grand Cayemite, islets off the Haitian coast, as: Wing, 152-154; tail, 65.4-68.7; tarsus, 59-59.5; culmen, 67.5-68.7 mm. One from Puerto Rico, Coll. of S. T. Danforth, measures, Wing, 149.5; tail, 69.0; tarsus, 55.0; culmen, 62.1 mm. *Females*: One from Jamaica (Wetmore¹), Wing, 139.8; tarsus, 50.2; culmen, 54.7 mm. Six from Haiti (Wetmore¹), Wing, 134.5-144.5 (138.1); tail, 54.4-58.3 (56.4); tarsus, 50.9-59.5 (53.8); culmen, 53.6-63 (58.6) mm., and a seventh (Wetmore²), wing, 143.6; tail, 59; tarsus, 51.9; culmen, 60.8 mm. One from Haiti, Coll. of S. T. Danforth, Wing, 138.2; tail, 73.0; tarsus, 49.8; culmen, 60.1 mm.

Distribution.—Island of Antigua, Lesser Antilles, and possibly the nearby island of Barbuda.

¹Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., 41, June 29, 1928, pp. 121-22.

²Proc. U. S. National Museum, 81, 1932, p. 15.